The Temple Artisan

SEPT.-OCT., 1920

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Mysticism and Social Science

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THE TEMPLE

PRIMARILY, The Temple is a cosmic organic centre, the constituent parts of which are the units of collective humanity.

Coincident with the original impulse, the first emanation from the Central Spiritual Sun—the Universal Heart—came into manifestation, the Father-Mother-Son, the triangular corner stone of The Temple, upon which is rising, age by age, a geometrically perfect edifice. The cap stones to the pillars of the porch, and the outer walls are now being laid, preliminary to the work of the roof-builders—the humanity of the sixth great root-race.

The place of each stone is determined by the law of selection, and the same law determines the different Degrees and Orders which lead to and from the great Stone of Sacrifice which rests upon the pavement of the Central Square.

The development of outer conditions, planes and personalities must keep pace with and correspond to the development of the interior man, or evolutionary force would be diverted from its proper channels.

When the Craftsman or Apprentice to any Degree has finished his term of service, and has mastered all the details of the work, he is "recognized" by the Master Builder, and raised to a higher Degree, although he may never be conscious of the presence of that Master, until his apprenticeship is completed, and he in turn becomes a Master of a lower Degree.

The organization of The Temple, the members of which belong by evolutionary right to a certain Degree of Cosmic Life, which Degree is subdivided into seven Orders, is the continuation and expansion of the work of the Masters revivified in this country a quarter of a century ago by certain chelas or disciples.

To the efforts of the Masters is due the impulse which has caused the great advance in scientific, philosophical and social endeavor; for they are the guardians of Ancient Wisdom and Knowledge, in which lies the root of all progress; and the work of The Temple is to cultivate and embody the highest principles of all such endeavor in one stupendous living organic whole.

It is a common belief that the fires on the altars of the Ancient Temples have been permitted to die out: but "those who know" say this is not true; that they are but hidden from the view of the masses, awaiting the time when the veil of ignorance and corruption hanging before the hearts of the humanity of this transitory period, shall be rent asunder, and the light of the ages become manifest to all. The time is comparatively close at hand when the doors of "The Temple of the Mysteries" shall once more swing outward. The Site of that once wonderful structure has been rediscovered, and when the Lord, the Saviour, the Elder Brother of the human race once more reappears to claim his own, He will find a place prepared for him by those who, having heard this call, "Come over and help us," have faithfully responded, and have taken up their share of the burden of responsibility. Are you of that number?

Address THE TEMPLE, Halcyon, California.

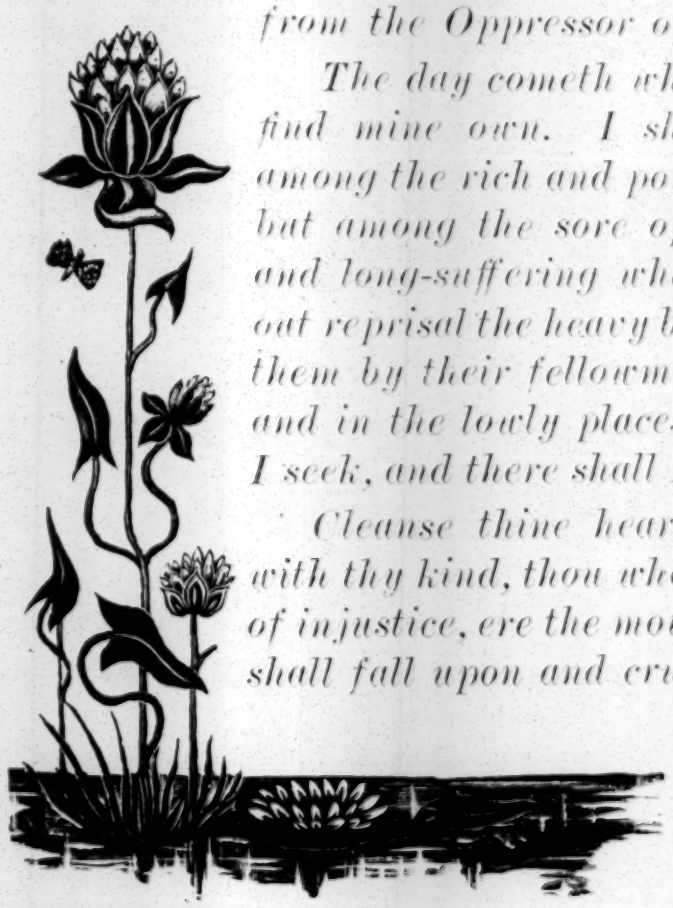
The Temple Artisan

Vol. XXI. SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER. 1920 No. 4-5

Behold, I give **unto thee a key.**

MAKE PEACE.

I will come unto thee and smite thee, saith the Ancient of Days, if thou heedest not my commands to deal righteously with thy brethren, for I am thy Lord who loveth thee. I will smite thee in love to save thee from the Oppressor of Souls.



The day cometh when I shall seek and find mine own. I shall not find many among the rich and powerful of the earth, but among the sore oppressed, the meek and long-suffering who have borne without reprisal the heavy burdens thrust upon them by their fellowmen. In the valleys and in the lowly places of the earth shall I seek, and there shall I find mine own.

Cleanse thine heart and make peace with thy kind, thou who bearest the sword of injustice, ere the mountain of my wrath shall fall upon and crush thee.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION OF TEMPLE MEMBERS.

There was the usual appreciated preliminary social meeting on Saturday evening of July 31 in the Halcyon Parlors with all visiting members and friends attending. In addition to the social features a musical programme of unusual excellence was rendered, Henry Cowell and D. Z. Rudhyar interpreting the modern school of music. Dr. Little, Otto Westfelt and Mr. and Mrs. Weaver rendered their usual excellent selections, vocal and instrumental. Mrs. Florence Currier of Fall River, Mass., enlivened the evening with interesting readings. The Reception Committee served refreshments, after which the meeting dispersed to meet in formal session the following morning.

FIRST MEETING OF THE CONVENTION.

This meeting was held in the Halcyon Parlors. After a piano selection by Edgar Cheatham, Dr. Dower invoked the blessing of the Masters of Light and Wisdom on the meetings to be held in the following words: "In the name of the universal brotherhood of humanity, without distinction of race, color, or creed, I formally open this convention and invoke the blessing of the Masters of Love and Wisdom, on all our meetings, that we may be helped to assimilate greater forces and be more useful servants of those who so guide our evolution." The Words of Force were then recited, the Convocation Hymn and Great Unifier sung by all in unison, after which Mrs. Francia A. La Due, Guardian in Chief, read the Master's message to the Convention.

THE MASTER'S MESSAGE.

I give you warm greetings, my sons and daughters of long past ages, and neophytes of the Temple, today!

To my sorrow I must say it, it is one of the saddest days of the Iron Age. Its sadness is due to the wilful casting aside or misuse of many of the great opportunities life has so generously offered mankind for combining the essentials of both spiritual and material life whenever and wherever it was possible, and bringing to bear the forces so aroused for solving the heavy world problems of today.

The ruling spirit of unrest and disruption has seized upon the masses of mankind who, as a result of their contact with the ambition, selfishness, and arrogance of men in high places, have been driven into a state of desperation

from which there can be but one of two eventualities. While this is all deplorable from the material side of life, it is still more so from the spiritual and religious side. The essentials of spiritual progress are first of all humility, unselfishness, and compassion, and if these attributes in one class of humanity are smothered by the inhumanity of another class who are in positions of authority, there can be but little spiritual advance for either class.

If this evil spirit of disruption enters a body which has been previously formed by the White Brotherhood for the purpose of recombining the units of a group soul who have been scattered to the four corners of the earth, and they can be gathered into the body where they karmically belong, thus making the body powerful enough to resist the antagonistic forces directed against it, it can overcome that spirit of disruption. In the process the body as a whole will have gained a long step up the ladder of spiritual and material development. This may be done in one instance if the scattered Theosophists over the world could be gathered into the Temple of the People, where they actually belong by karmic right, however unconscious of that fact they now are.

One of the most deplorable features of the present era is the neglect of religious and philosophical training of children by many parents. Such neglect is often due to ignorance of the fact that the first seven years of a child's life is the period when the most intensive growth takes place in the substance of certain brain centers which are more impressionable by the influences of high spiritual entities than at any other period of physical life.

In the passing of a soul from spiritual and higher astral planes to the physical plane by means of rebirth, that soul brings back memories of its previous existence upon those interior planes as well as of the intermediate states. These memories are impressed upon the brain of the reincarnating soul which are revived in vision or in concentration somewhat as mental pictures. It is also during these periods between incarnations that the soul has fixed within its aura the impressions of experiences lived through during previous earth lives, and many of the statements made by children which are believed by older people to be false or exaggerated are actually related to events occurring in previous incarnations. Such impressions fade away from the mind as the years pass, if they are not frequently revived and so kept permanently alive by right training during the first seven-year cycle of physical life, that is, until the connections between soul and body have been permanently established. Nothing in the line of modern education on general lines can make up for the loss sustained as a result of the neglect of such training by the parents of a younger generation.

It is to you and others who, like you, have had the advantages given by the Masters of Compassion during the last half century that the world in general will have to look for the turning of the present tide of irreligion and of unbelief in the actual existence of Deity and also of the permanence of a spiritual hierarchy,—a host of arch angels—whatever be the names bestowed by man upon its units. If the higher ideals of brotherhood as taught by the Masters are destroyed by the selfishness of the parents and their materialistic concepts are allowed to filter into the minds of young children as a result of indifference or of contempt for religion when either subject is commonly discussed in their hearing, those first impressions are lost or covered up, and

it is upon the retention of those impressions that is formed the substratum of future belief in the reality of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. It is upon some measure of realization of brotherhood as a fact in nature and in man that a well informed man is led to combine his interests for religious as well as material purposes with others having the same ideals and purposes, thereby proving the reality of such relationship.

The splitting apart of the original body, formed by H. P. Blavatsky under direction of the Masters, opened the way for the present work of the spirit of disruption—the spiritual director of the black brotherhood—and the fragments of that body are scattered far and wide. Every effort made by you to reassemble those fragments, and especially to combine the units of the younger generation in the present day who have been born of the original members of that body and who have been drawn together in other secondary organizations, is of vital importance. Many of the deep truths of the Wisdom Religion as previously taught have been lost or prostituted. The selfish business and other material interests are quick to respond to the call for combination; but the real interests of the soul have been largely served by the forces of disruption, in the present era, and the consequence is there is no religious combination today strong enough by itself to carry the day when a great issue between righteousness and unrighteousness is at stake. The original body of highly trained students have allowed their children to drift into innumerable factions and to absorb many false ideas of life.

A tremendous work is before those who recognize the dangers which threaten the world. But on the other hand, the opportunities for the gaining of reward far in excess of these dangers, were never so great as now. When the religious instincts of a race or a nation are smothered there is no hope of social or political equalization, the very heart center of a people is thereby inhibited and this is what threatens every nation of the world today. It is not so much the forms or sects of religion that are at stake, but the divine spark in the heart of each individual, the spark which springs from the spiritual fire of the God-head and which only the will of man can smother in that heart.

Keep that spark alive, my children, whatever may come to you, for that is your salvation though the heavens fall and the earth melt away.

In loving remembrance, Your Father,

HILARION.

CONVENTION MESSAGE.

BY THE GUARDIAN IN CHIEF.

My Dear Comrades:

With all my heart I welcome you home, your home and mine, "our Father's house," if we will have it so. It depends upon us individually as to what we will do about it. Some one has truthfully said, "Home is where the heart is." If our hearts are here, our home is here.

We are taught that there is a central point or cell in the heart of every living creature which encapsules the Divine Spark. Scientifically, the divinity

of this spark may be problematical, but that the seat of physical life is at that spot is an evident fact of nature. For the occultist the divinity of that life spark is as assured as is the beat of the pulse, and Halcyon is the heart in which we must encapsule the Divine Spark of the Temple.

The dynamo of God's love is throwing out a continuous stream of spiritual fiery sparks between aspiring souls. It depends upon whether we have created within our hearts a condition corresponding to an electric switch-board by means of which there may be a reciprocal interchange of loving thoughts and acts to and for each other as to whether God—the Divine Source of our being—can create the necessary spiritual magnetic field between Him and us, His children, which will enable us to make such interchange.

The necessity for conscious interdependence between human lives was never more clearly demonstrated than it has been within the past decade, and it daily becomes more evident between all Templars, and especially between those living in the vicinity of the Headquarters. The closer people are drawn together in a single environment the easier it is for them to become over-magnetized and so tend to fly apart at the least friction. It requires the substitution of an inter-etheric force which is still unrecognized in the great majority of mankind, to overcome the tendency toward excessive personal magnetism which continuity increases. One of the effects of the development of this inter-etheric force or energy is what we commonly term sympathy, and it is only by sympathetic understanding of the problem facing each member of a group of close associates that it is possible to maintain a harmonious relationship between them.

There is but one way in which that latent force can be developed where there is a lack of it in a human being, and that is by deliberate effort to cultivate it by power of will. This is done by understandingly studying the effects of callousness and coldness on one's own nature and conversely the effects of their opposites, and making specific efforts to enforce sympathetic action whenever opportunities occur. Not in what is sometimes termed "maudlin sympathy," but the active sympathy which is awakened by understanding and desire to help. Increased vibration of the sympathetic system of nerves in the body of man wields the key which may unlock the inner door of the heart. A responsive current is thereby set up between God and man; between spirit and matter.

Much difficulty is experienced by the great majority of people in understanding and appreciating the fact that in every act of man a definite force or form of energy,—a form of substance, is evolved within the physical and mental bodies of the individual man which is possible of being personally directed to a given purpose or end. Herein is a definite field for work by Templars, and I could suggest no other of more importance at this time.

The present is our opportunity to reach and help others into the Temple ranks. Some other soul is crying out for such help and is being denied by the indifference of some Templar, while the Masters reach out to us with outstretched hands for help in bringing that wanderer home. What are we doing in answer?

Lovingly, your sister,

G. IN C.

August 1, 1920.

BY THE SCRIBE.

As I look back over the past year with a view to putting into a few words the general keynote of the Temple vibrations during that period, it seems to differ from preceding years in that far more people have come to and passed through the Center than ever before. Each takes with him a subtle influence which he could not receive anywhere else, and even though he may forget that he ever visited the Center, the forces he contacted here will influence his whole life and indirectly the lives of all he may contact in the future. Possibly this is the chief function of the Center at this period, to furnish a place where many may come into direct contact with the great leavening Lodge forces and carry them away, spreading the subtle vibrations wherever they may go.

Those who are privileged to reside permanently at Halcyon have witnessed many changes for the better, among others a decided tendency towards the building up of a stronger residing place on the material plane. To do this as it must be done is a gigantic problem. Enthusiasm alone will not do it, faith alone will not, nor hope, nor work, nor money. Before the Temple descends to the earth, we will have to learn to co-relate many forces which are at present arrayed against one another. We will have to solve the problem of capital and labor, to find a common ground upon which the two may meet. We must overcome the semi-conscious antagonism which exists between the dreamer and the worker, find some higher vibration which will kill out the contempt which each feels for the other and recognize that all are equally important when viewed from a higher standpoint than the purely personal. Each has his own work to do and must do it in his own way. Otherwise he cannot function to the extent of his powers.

All the Masters ask is willingness to help. Give this, and out of the pain and turmoil which will result from the conflict between the desire to help and the pulling down forces of the personal self will come the *ability* to help and the *knowledge* of *how* to do so. As each stone in the Temple becomes ready it slips silently into place, unknown to its fellows and perhaps also to itself. Perhaps it may know its place and function there with full consciousness, perhaps at times only may the knowledge enter the brain-mind. But we may rest assured that so long as we are willing to enter, no power can stop us from becoming a part of the Temple structure.

And now, one word regardng conditions at Halcyon. To the writer it seems as though here the rays of experience were concentrated into a shorter period of time than elsewhere. We pass through the extremes with greater rapidity, the dross of our natures is being burned out more rapidly, and the extremes, both good and bad, are thrown to the surface. We are thrown closely together, and in the contact frictions will arise. May this not eventually result in a more complete understanding of the motives of those who are different from ourselves, a broad tolerance which shall overcome the petty distinctions of personality and idiosyncrasy? If we can maintain this attitude and keep on working, I fully believe that the Temple will be built at Halcyon, not so much as the result of our personal efforts to build it this way or that way, but rather in spite of them.

ERNEST HARRISON.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDING AUGUST 1, 1920.

RECEIPTS.

Christmas Cards	$ 178.43
Correspondence Courses	249.52
Contributions	34.10
Mirror of Destiny	21.37
Approaching Avatar	42.27
Order 36 Students	4.35
Open Court Students	16.63
Kabalascopes	6.10
Sale of Propaganda Literature	1.80
White City Fund	44.00
Library Income	70.82
Total receipts	$ 669.39
Cash on hand August 1, 1919	256.54
Total	$ 925.93

DISBURSEMENTS.

General Expenses (paper, mimeograph supplies, typewriter)	$ 237.01
Printing	135.83
Stamps	141.67
Library:	
General Expenses	6.30
Purchases	50.28
Total	$ 571.09
Cash on hand	354.84
Grand total	$ 925.93

MONIES SENT TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

ARTISANS	$ 21.70
Halcyon Book Concern	12.05
Monies to Treasurer	151.27
Offerings given to Guardian in Chief	282.52
Total	$ 467.52

Respectfully submitted,

SARAH A. MERRELL-WOLFF,
General Secretary.

For my comrades in Convention gathered, I would weave a message of purest love. The strands of that weaving are intertwined with ages of ceaseless effort, of travail and of attainment. I pray you listen to its wording with your inner ears, for words are frail and imperfect carriers of the substance of the message. In form, it is One, yet Three, and the three-fold aspect is named Order, Beauty, Freedom. The One, is the "Word" we may place in Form through this three-fold aspect.

As through the physical heart flows the blood stream which nourishes

the body it sustains, so through the spiritual heart flows Love which nourishes the spiritual body even as the blood nourishes the physical form. As through the heart of the Blue Star flows the love force that feeds the souls of those who are a part of the Inner Temple, so through the Red Star flow the Forces of Testing which determine our power to endure, to perceive and to "Stand." Through the Central Chamber of Initiation, when it is builded, will flow the Forces which will nourish the White City.

As the time rapidly approaches when a precipitation into material form of the Lodge Plan will occur, your publicity line seeks to place before you the three-fold aspect of the "Word" we, as a Group, are to attempt to speak. ORDER: Order is Heaven's first law, it is said, and under Order falls the perfect alignment of the Plan the Lodge seeks to place in form for the Sixth Race. We will be tempted in many ways to break away from that Plan; events will SEEM to make it advisable, but, if we resolutely determine to lay those lines straight and in accord with the Inner Plan, the power to establish Unity and to build gloriously will be poured out upon us.

BEAUTY: Beauty must ensoul our building. Master has indicated that no soul can unfold its true powers in an environment where imperfection, ugly exteriors, inharmonious colors, crowded conditions, or crooked lines are manifested. Therefore upon those of us who have been given the alignment and apportionment of land is placed a most serious responsibility. I would plead that we lay the form of the outer plan broadly, magnificently, beautifully. If we do, the power to so build will sweep us forward to victory. But, if we so plan, and then lay our lines meanly, crowding our buildings as they do in the slums of great cities, on tiny lots, we will fail, fail utterly; for no White City can be builded under such alignment. An inflexible effort to outer the Lodge Plan along broad, open, generous and all-inclusive lines, will draw to us the Constructive Forces which the world has long rejected, and we will be enabled to make live in terms of matter the beauty of Divine Order, the enduring character of Spiritual Harmony.

The Initiations of poverty are severe, but the Initiations of wealth are almost insurmountable. With the first move towards basic construction will appear those who seek material success only, and with them will come those forms of envy, jealousy and self-seeking which are the inevitable concomitants of any construction using earthly wealth as one of its tools. Therefore, a selfless loyalty to our Leaders and to each other is absolutely essential if we would win successfully through factional disputes and envious separative forces.

Let us ever remember that he who is wise seeks not to stand in the brilliant light of leadership; that to stand as a leader in the true sense is to suffer and to be misunderstood. In the Great White Brotherhood, those who are most wise and most loving, lead, and they offer leadership only to those who seek it not, but whose great love calls them to make the great sacrifice. A Master has said: "The power desired by a true disciple is that which will make him appear as nothing in the eyes of men."

The feeling is with me that, as a group, we are facing the point in our evolution symbolized by the "Moment of Choice." Will we have the courage to forget our personal selves and seek only the greater good of us all? Can we manifest the Humility of the truly Great, the Loyalty of the truly Wise,

and build with a unity of purpose and a selfless love? Or, will we, too, be swept away by the power of "Mammon," and accept a SEEMINGLY greater financial income providing we break the true lines of the Lodge Plan? Will we, too, through a clever turning of words here, a clever manipulation of personality there, seek to gain a seemingly greater Power? My comrades, the difficult times that are past are as nothing to those which are to come, and we will be seared and burned by the Rod of Gold if we deviate from the Plan submitted by the Masters, or from each other.

FREEDOM: To a stricken world, I cry the word aloud: FREEDOM!

That which ye bind, ye free!

That which ye kill, ye make alive!

That which ye silence, ye ensoul with Power!

FREEDOM: To my Temple comrades, I cry the word aloud! FREEDOM! OPEN WIDE the Outer Doors, Open wide the Inner Doors, Open your hearts, your souls, your minds, that the New Day may be born, and Humanity gain the power to pass the Guardian of its Golden Gates.

"Build ye my Temple; let the White Flame arise, and once again will I enter in, to heal and to bless mankind."

SARAH A. MERRELL-WOLFF.

BY THE TREASURER.

Friends, sisters and brothers, comrades in the work of the Master, greetings and affection. May you realize, though only in part, with just what joy we receive you this home-coming.

I have wondered what my message to you should be this morning and if there were any message I could give through mere words. If I could actually reach you in the realm of deeper understanding something indeed would be accomplished.

We know your interest in all that pertains to the work. Many questions arise in your minds, many suggestions come to you in regard to methods which might be used to bring about best success.

How can the conditions of the equation be fulfilled, said in terms of number values so as to give actual material satisfaction? The answer comes at once, positively, repeatedly, finally—It cannot be done.

If with all your hearts, if with all your effort you make kindly observation you will readily see the existing conditions, you will find the right proportions, you will secure the poise which will steady the mechanism of the entire movement and permit the truest, the most practical, the most far-reaching work to be done, and you will find satisfaction, understanding and detailed knowledge in regard to funds and figures also. There is no other way. Each year proves this more clearly than the year before. There is no satisfaction in mere figures. It requires spiritual understanding itself to liquidate doubt, unfaith and hesitancy and to ensoul suggestions with a force that makes them practically spiritually possible.

As we work with faith and good cheer we add to our tasks the joy of duty and our capacity for work is increased.

If our brothers and sisters come with watchful eye for existing needs

and with willingness to serve in quiet, unobtrusive way much can be accomplished. If through the coming year there can flow through the work a steady influx of energy and life force, we may look forward to the fulfillment of hope in the work we have set out to do and so beautifully expressed in the following lines sent out for meditation:

"May hope fulfilled sing its glad song in thine heart this *Day of Christ*, and may the star of evening whisper a paean of praise in thine heart as thou seekest thy rest."

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Cash on hand July 15, 1919		$ 59.70
Dues received during year		498.80
Helping Hand Offerings		753.05
Total Receipts		$1,311.55
Expenses—		
TEMPLE ARTISAN, Printing	$ 676.75	
Stamps	85.55	
Headquarters Expenses	183.50	
Stationery Supplies	109.25	
Halcyon Print Shop	87.18	
Incidentals	24.39	1,166.62
Balance on hand July 15, 1920		$ 144.93

JANE W. DOWER.

BY THE OFFICIAL HEAD.

Dear Comrades of the Temple:

In the message of last year attention was directed to the importance of making the Temple a center for the equilibration of world conditions, and that if the Temple as an organic unity could establish the *cross of balance* in itself, such strong harmonizing vibrations would go out to the world that they would help immensely in bringing order out of the present chaotic world conditions. In other words, as was said in the last year's message, we must not vibrate on any of the extremes of life, whether it be in the spiritual, mental, economic, or political fields of action. And this means that we must find the middle path, which always can be found if we look aright.

The middle path, as has been pointed out, is the path of the Christ, the path of reconstruction. Standing firmly on this middle path, we have the power to draw on the extremes and use them intelligently and wisely and not *be used by them*. To be used by an extreme leads to fanaticism and worse. To do what we can do and should do, the Temple must put these forces into action in concrete terms. That is, from the spiritual standpoint we must accept the fundamental truth of the middle path and transmuting all prejudices and biases and personalities, allow the forces of the middle path to radiate and manifest in our own lives and to those around us.

We must also as a collective body endeavor to put into concrete action the forces of the middle path in outer or economic work for the world. Our opportunities for doing this may seem small, but we have a start in this

direction through certain phases of outer work, and if we put ourselves in the right attitude of helpfulness, the law of supply and demand will undoubtedly operate and extend this beginning indefinitely; and instead of this outer work being comparatively unknown, it can become a potent factor in the evolution of society, industrially and otherwise. Certain forces seem to be pointing in the right direction for bringing this about at the present time. Let us be prepared to accept the opportunity if it comes and thus become one with the Great Law that moves for righteousness.

The middle path is ever the center for unification, and wherever unification is at work you can be quite sure that there the force of the Christos is operating. As we know, this is the Messianic cycle. An Avatar, a great Light, is descending into the aura of the human race. As this great Light has come closer to humanity, old conditions have been disturbed and are in process of transmutation. These conditions refer not only to the political, but also to the mental and spiritual life of nations and peoples. This great Light will bring the New Day upon the earth. For centuries past, so to speak, the world has been in the night-time. Darkness, ignorance, and superstition have ruled the races of the earth, and this darkness, superstition and ignorance have been powerfully entrenched in all the customs, traditions, and creeds of the past. As when the sun rises in the morning effulgently and the creatures of darkness and of the underworld disappear, so as the light of the Avatar comes closer to the life of humanity, the forces of ignorance, superstition and selfish rule have been disturbed and put to flight. But in this process, as we have seen during the past five or six years, the whole world has been unsettled, and we are still in the stage of fermentation, which is but a step in the process of transmutation. With the still nearer approach of the Avataric Light, the old order of things will crumble more and more and will disappear, to be replaced by an order of life more in accord with natural and divine law.

It has been said that the middle path is the Christos, and the Avatar is the Christos; and therefore, in this process of transmutation in the various fields of world action, the line of cleavage, so to speak, between all of the extremes will follow the line of the middle path; and if we wish to work with the Avatar and the Christos, we will turn ourselves to that fundamental line, seeking ever with highest discrimination to find the medium between any two given extremes.

And the coming of the Avatar will sound the keynote for the new cycle. The conditions of the old cycle must practically be over before He can come in full measure. This means the stabilizing of conditions on the truth of the middle path before the great event occurs. This stabilization, then, will mean that the world will have evolved out of its present chaos and will have become sufficiently unified to take the next step as a whole. It will mean, in other words, the real beginning in concrete terms on the earth of the universal republic, and this naturally means the beginning of the real universal brotherhood of all humanity without distinction. It will also mean that at last the children of man will have been able to establish on the earth conditions that will prevent wars; in other words, a condition of universal peace. On this foundation and on this foundation alone can the

Avatar appear to sound the keynote of the next cycle, the step that will open the door for the Golden Age.

No higher ideal can be offered to human beings, and Temple members should feel it a great privilege to have the opportunity of putting themselves in line with such a glorious work. It is a work, however, that will test the highest discrimination, for it will be based, as has been pointed out, on the ability to discern and follow the middle path between all extremes of life and action.

Last year we received a message from the Master relative to the Lodge attitude on the League of Nations. In that message we were told that every effort made for unifying the races of the earth has its primary impulse in the heart of the Great White Lodge. It was also stated that the privation or ideal form establishing a brotherhood of nations has hung in the etheric universe for ages and has been realized on other planets. It was also stated that every organized attempt to unite mankind for the establishment of a spiritual, social, or political purpose has been the result of the intuitive perception of some aspect of this ideal form by some one or more progressive souls on earth.

It was also pointed out that all such efforts to establish a brotherhood of nations on earth for the unifying purpose named have always met with the strongest kind of opposition on the part of the initiates of the Black Lodge who, up to the present time, have been able to thwart the externalization of this great ideal and have therefore made this planet the hell it has been for countless numbers of human beings. The present effort to form this brotherhood of the League of Nations has been obstructed and thwarted up to this time. If it is not formed fully, which means participation in it of the great leading nations of the earth, nothing can prevent disrupting forces becoming rampant and wars and more wars following.

In this Avataric cycle it is absolutely necessary that a League of Nations be formed, in order that constructive and harmonizing forces may become operative among the nations of the earth, which forces will thus serve to uplift humanity mentally and spiritually. We can also say that this League of Nations must be formed along the lines indicated, if the Avatar is expected to accomplish his work. The Master's prophecy given as far back as 1898 would seem to point out that this brotherhood of nations must be formed in order to give the base, so to speak, for the feet of the Avatar to stand upon. The last sentence of that prophecy conveys that meaning in these words: "The lion, the bear, the ox, the eagle, the bull, and the snake will form the hexagon, the sixth, from which the square, the fourth, will rise to build the cornerstone for the feet of the Avatar to rest upon."

We have been given the opportunity and responsibility of forming a matrix or nucleus of a universal brotherhood of all humanity. By that I mean all peoples attuned similarly to the high ideals of the Temple are given that opportunity, whether they happen to belong to one particular organization or no organization at all. *It is the spirit that counts.*

The Temple people of our particular organization have their particular work to do, their keynote to sound. This may be summed up concretely to be the establishment in this particular section of the planet of a strong educational or teaching center that will send forth to all parts of the earth the

teachings and ideals of a constructive philosophy that will help the peoples of the earth to understand the fundamental verities of existence, as a result of which they will be able to co-ordinate their efforts and relationships and thus promote universal harmony and peace.

The other aspect is to build right here where we have the center of our movement a concrete organism, let us call it a city, in which all who are interested in the ideals before mentioned may gather and work unitedly for their externalization, where also will be built a great temple of religious and scientific learning, the architecture, proportions and ornamentations of which will embody and reveal fundamental truths on which the universe and the soul of man are built.

It is a great and worthy ideal and not impossible of attainment, if we will all bend our energies in the right direction. Certain forces seem to be present this year which would indicate that important beginnings will be made for the definite bringing into existence the first form, so to speak, of these ideals that we all have so earnestly hoped for since the inception of the Temple work. I refer specifically to the building of the Temple structure itself and the city that will surround it. Definite presentations of this subject will be given at another session of the convention.

The Esoteric Section of the Temple.

While little can be said in detail in this address concerning these inner departments, yet it is permissible to state that they are growing in strength and power with every passing year, gathering into these inner ranks a stronger and stronger nucleus of souls eager for more truth and light and in whom is inculcated more and more the spirit of unselfish service to the world. As a result of the forces and teachings which students of these inner groups assimilate, there will grow up within the Temple sphere many teachers and leaders who will be able to help humanity, powerfully and efficiently as time goes on and as crises demand such teachers and leaders. In this way, by virtue of the work of these inner departments the plans of the Masters of Wisdom for helping the world may be greatly advanced.

The Helping Hand.

This important and vitally necessary department of the Temple has been accomplishing its usual efficient work during the past year, sending out to the members generally helpful messages and receiving from the members contributions so vitally necessary for perpetuating the general work of the Temple, such as the printing of The Artisan, letterheads, postage, etc., all of which make great inroads into the total moneys received, as well as paying various kinds of office expenses and contributing in many ways to holding the work of the Temple together by virtue of just what its name implies, the helping hand.

Members should endeavor to do their full duty to this important department, realizing how fundamental it is to the very existence of the Temple itself. Whatever contributions they may feel inclined to give to other sources or departments should not curtail their contributions to this department, for if they do so curtail contributions, the work of the Temple will suffer as a whole. We will be unable to get out The Artisan or will have to make it

smaller in size. Not only would this apply to THE ARTISAN, but to other necessary foundations on which the Temple rests for continuing its influence among its members and in the world.

TEMPLE DUES.

After mature deliberation it has been decided to increase the Temple dues from $2.00 a year to $6.00, which covers all dues except those of the 28 and 14. The very high cost of everything has made this experiment imperative. With old members, that is, members who are in the Temple at the present time, this change will not go into effect until the October payment of dues comes around. For all new members, incoming members, it applies at once. It should be distinctly understood that this increase of dues will not affect the status of any who may be unable to pay the full amount. There have always been members of the Temple who have been unable to pay even the full amount of $2.00 per year. These have always been held in good standing if they but indicated their inability to pay, yet maintaining interest in the work, for as has been said repeatedly, it is hearts that the Master wishes to gather together and not dollars.

We expect that substantial benefits will come to the Temple members as a result of this increase in dues. It will be possible to give out more teachings in printed and other form, as well as enlarging THE ARTISAN, increasing the number of its pages and adding features of interest, thus helping members individually and the work as a whole in spreading more widely the Temple light.

CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.

This work has gone on steadily and quietly as usual. The hearts of many children in various parts of the land are being touched by the literature that goes out steadily from this department. The fundamental lessons of truth and life may not always be appreciated by the children when they receive them, but as has been proved in many instances, as they grow older and reach the age of introspection they look back on their Temple Builders' lessons and influences and realize the great worth of what was given them. Thus their consciousness becomes modified through the light of higher truth which is sent forth so abundantly and earnestly through this important department.

It is to be hoped that some day the valuable children's lessons may all be printed and made available for general use, as the truths that have been sent forth in them will help adults as much as children.

PRINTING OFFICE.

As was pointed out last year, this is a private enterprise of Mr. W. H. Thompson and Mrs. Louise Awerdick. This last year the office has been extended and a large press added to the equipment. This equipment is under rental at the present time to non-Temple members, but the right has been reserved for the Temple to get out much of its printing there under the work of Mrs. Awerdick. The parties renting the equipment are now getting out a weekly paper promoting the interests of this section generally. The Temple has no connection whatsoever with this publication; but with a well equipped printing plant in our midst controlled by our own members and with a very efficient man in charge who, though now but renting it, is yet

available for all kinds of Temple printing work that we may require, this office is a valuable asset in our midst and no doubt will be used extensively in the future for promoting our publicity work.

Book Department.

This department, as was announced some months ago, is now definitely under the auspices of the Temple. It is still limited in its usefulness, but exercises, nevertheless, a very useful function, listing interesting, instructive, and wholesome books of occult philosophy and thought, thus helping members to procure such books. This department will gradually extend the number of books which it will sell and undoubtedly become an important factor in spreading the influence of the Temple work, especially as it is able to combine the publication of books with its sales.

Up to the present time there are only a few of what may be called distinctively Temple books, but it is hoped that our members who have literary ability and philosophical knowledge will put their talents to work and so help to build up ultimately a distinct literature of Temple philosophy. The books that we may call distinctively Temple books, outside of Temple teachings, are "Beacon Fires," "From the Mountain Top," "Occultism for Beginners," "The Mirror of Destiny," and "The Approaching Avatar." It is to be hoped that every year will see this list added to.

Propaganda.

This publicity department has accomplished its usual fine work during the year, calling attention to the Temple far and wide as a result of its systematic methods under the devoted and efficient direction of Mrs. Wolff, the General Secretary. Her report sufficiently gives details, so it is unnecessary to enter further here.

Religion, Science, Economics.

This is the triune foundation on which the Temple is building. When the truths of these three aspects are correlated and practically applied on earth and in human life, the *Golden Age* will be here, the Holy City will descend on earth—a NEW SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS will enter the races of the earth and a UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD OF ALL HUMANITY without distinctions will reign on this planet.

The Great Work of the Temple and its members is to transmit teachings and forces from inner spheres that will help humanity to understand the great fundamentals and the eternal verities on which the universe of body, soul and spirit is built, and to transmute all lower metals or forces into higher spiritual and moral qualities. This transmutation will bring the realization of the essential Unity of all Life and peoples, so that instead of present hatreds and antagonisms between races and individuals there will be a natural manifestation of altruistic forces on the basis of justice and liberty all embodied in a Universal Organism, a Brotherhood of Man without distinctions. This is the practical ideal that the Master Forces back of the Temple strive to externalize in the world of today. It is the Great Work that began ages ago, but as yet unfinished. We are helpful factors in perfecting this Universal Temple of Humanity in proportion as we seek to benefit humanity rather than ourselves. No higher ideal can be offered to those who wish to attain the heights of life.

William H. Dower.

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